



# GEMS Twickenham Primary Academy Newsletter

Principal: Mr. John Smith

Autumn Term: Friday 25<sup>th</sup> September 2020



Newsletter 3

## Dear Parents,

I hope that you have had a wonderful week, and that you are looking forward to the weekend ahead. A big thank you for your support with Jeans for Genes last Friday – we raised £300.00 as a school for this wonderful charity, and will be sending them a cheque shortly.

## Key Stage Two Mathematics and English Workshops:

On Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> October, our English Coordinator Miss Sara and our Mathematics Coordinator Miss Grace will be hosting English and Mathematic Workshops for the parents of pupils in Key Stage Two. The workshops are designed to give you a more detailed overview of the specific core curriculum areas as well as an up to date knowledge of the teaching methods, and in particular the subject specific vocabulary used in school.

Below details the date, and time for each meeting. The meeting links will be sent to your parent mail account on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> October. We do ask you only attend the meetings that are related to your children’s school year. Thank you, and we look forward to running these workshops with you.

<b>Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> October</b>	<b>Key Stage 2 English and Mathematics Workshops</b> English Y3 – 09:00 am (Miss Sara) Maths Y3 – 10:00 am (Miss Grace)  English Y4 and Y5 - 1:30 pm (Miss Sara) Mathematics Y4 and Y5 - 2:30 pm (Miss Grace)
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## Google Classroom:

If your child is currently accessing home learning via google classroom because they are isolating, please can we ask that you turn in the work via google classroom, and not wait for them to return to school. This is so that the teacher can keep up to date with the marking and feedback. The children, when required, should complete their work in their work books but upload a photo of the work onto google classroom once complete.

Furthermore, if your child is isolating, and you require an electronic device from the school to support the home learning, please do let Miss Hana in the school office know as we have a surplus stock available for loan. It is important that the pupils do continue with their learning to avoid any further gaps in learning.

Thank you very much, and please do let us know if you require any further support with this.

### **Key Workers:**

If the school does go into another lockdown, and the Department for Education asks us to provide on-site learning for those children who are key workers then at present we will continue to follow our current policy of those pupils attending school where both parents are key workers. However, this may be updated depending on the advice and guidance given to the school by the Department for Education.

### **Parent Drop Off:**

On Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> October, it would be Parent Drop off in which parents get an opportunity to visit the classroom, and gain an informal understanding about what the pupils have been learning so far during the academic year. As we are currently not allowed visitors on site, a video of the classroom will be uploaded onto the school website instead under the video resource centre. We hope you enjoy the videos, and that this gives you a useful insight into what the pupils have been up to so far.

### **Coats / Uniform:**

Although the weather has been recently very warm, it won't be long until it begins to turn much colder. Please can we ask that at this point you provide your child with a coat which is clearly named and labelled.

Furthermore, I would personally like to say a big thank you to Emma Love and the PTA team who did a wonderful job over the summer holidays by supporting families with uniform to ensure that the pupils had something to wear to school. Thank you very much from all of us at TPA.

Finally, we do fully understand the issues surrounding Stevensons but can we ask you do not adapt or develop your own versions of the school uniform. Thank you.

### **Hello Yellow World Mental Health Day:**

On Friday 9<sup>th</sup> October we ask all children to wear yellow in support of World Mental Health day. The children will be taking part in various mental health activities throughout the day to learn about the importance of mental health.



### **School Office News:**

#### **Reporting absences:**

Please call the school before 8:00am if your child is unwell to report their absence and symptoms. Our School policy is if a child remains unwell for 5 days or more to seek medical advice and provide evidence to the school office. This can be an evidence of a prescription, text message, appointment card, or a letter from hospital. If your child / family are isolating please email all results to Miss Joy at [j.chapple@gemstwickenhamprimary.co.uk](mailto:j.chapple@gemstwickenhamprimary.co.uk) prior to your child/ren returning to school and confirm that no one in the family is currently experiencing any Covid symptoms.

#### **Afterschool:**

A reminder that children should not be using the climbing frame afterschool for health and safety reasons, and those waiting for siblings should remain with their parents for social distancing purposes.

#### **Parent Pay / Parent mail:**

We are currently working on the transition of school finances from Parent Pay to Parent mail. We ask that you bear with us and details will follow in due course with regards to refunds, transition of fees and new payment items.

#### **School Dinners:**

Please email Miss Karen at [k.surey@gemstwickenhamprimary.co.uk](mailto:k.surey@gemstwickenhamprimary.co.uk) should you wish to amend your child's school dinner requirements.

**House Points:** The House Treat is a Pantomime in School at Christmas... restrictions allowing!

House	Previous Week	This Week
Parks	245	356
Gandhi	204	333
Pankhurst	223	320
Shackleton	281	363

**Attendance:**

In line with DFE guidance, that the school does not authorise any holiday. Thank you.  
All holiday is coded as an unauthorised absence (G) on the school's register.

Year Group	Target (97%)
Reception	97.6
Year 1	95.1
Year 2	98.1
Year 3	97.9
Year 4	94.9
Year 5	95.6
Whole School	96.5

**Key Dates:**

**Please note:** All the key dates for this academic term can be found on the school's online calendar

<b>Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> October</b>	<b>Black History Month Begins</b>
<b>Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> October</b>	Parent Drop Off – we are unable to do this in its current format instead a video of your class and what they have been up to so far will be uploaded onto the school website under Children / video resource center
<b>Friday 9<sup>th</sup> October</b>	Pupils wear Yellow to school for Mental Health Day
<b>Monday 12<sup>th</sup> October</b>	Individual Photos for the whole school
<b>Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> October</b>	Key Stage 2 – Parent Curriculum Workshops via zoom
<b>Mon 19<sup>th</sup>-Wed 21<sup>st</sup> October</b>	Safe Walking for Y3 pupils only

Have a lovely weekend,



Mr John Smith, Principal



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